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PRICE TWO CENTS

ARABIC NOT CONVOYED; BERLIN ASKED TO EXPLAIN ATTACK CAPITAL SEEKING EXPLANATION OF ARABIC SINKING IMMENSE FUND IS READY TO HELP MOVEMENT OF BRIDGEPORT WORKERS

Ambassador Gerard Notified to Make Full Inquiries at Berlin—Liner Not Conveyed By Warships, Is Official Statement in London—Two Americans Known to Be Among the List of Dead.

Body of Mrs. Bruguiere, One of Americans Lost, Said to Have Been Recovered—Sixteen Passengers and Forty of Crew Perished in Disaster, Line Office Declares in Official Statement.

ARABIC NOT CONVOYED, SAYS LONDON

London, Aug. 21.—The British government today authorized the statement that the steamship Arabic was not being convoyed when she was torpedoed by a German submarine.

ONLY TWO AMERICANS LOST

Washington, Aug. 21.—Vice Consul Thompson's latest despatch to the state department from Queenstown, confirms the White Star line's statement that only two Americans of the Arabic's passengers are unaccounted for. They are Mrs. Josephine Sather Bruguiere of New York and San Francisco, and Dr. Edmund F. W. of Jamestown, Wis.

Will Ask Germany to Explain.

Washington, Aug. 21.—It was announced at the State Department today that Ambassador Gerard probably will be directed to call the German government's attention to the sinking of the White Star liner Arabic, and to invite an explanation. This was the first indication from any official source that Germany would have an opportunity to give the reasons for the attack apparently in disregard to President Wilson's solemn warning that such an act would be regarded as deliberately unfriendly.

The State Department's attitude is that if the German government has any facts which, in its opinion, go to mitigate the circumstances of the attack, such as an attempt to escape or an attempt to resist or attack the submarine, the Berlin Foreign Office should have opportunity to present them. Today's announcement, moreover, indicates that before President Wilson takes any action there may be some exchange of diplomatic communications.

It is understood that the State Department's policy is to show the utmost deliberation consistent with the delicate question and to omit no opportunity of avoiding a severance of relations with Germany, so long as there is a reasonable expectation that a sufficient excuse can be given for the sinking of the Arabic.

Secretary Lansing said he could do more now than had been done and was continuing to await official information necessary to determine the government's course.

Although it has been reported that the German embassy had evidence that Captain Finch of the Arabic had been warned and attempted to escape before the torpedo was discharged, it was said at the State Department that no information of that kind had been received from the German embassy, or from any other official quarter.

Vice Consul Thompson's despatches from Queenstown this morning confirmed the White Star statement that it had been definitely determined that only two Americans were lost. It was the first official agreement of American losses. Nothing new was received from Ambassador Page.

MRS. BRUGUIERE'S BODY IS REPORTED FOUND

New York, Aug. 21.—The body of Mrs. Josephine Bruguiere, one of the two Americans lost, has been found, the White Star line announced today. This information was based on a conversation it was said, with Mrs. Marion Bruguiere, the dead woman's daughter-in-law, who was quoted as saying she had received a cable message to that effect.

Stratford Avenue Bridge Bonds Sold To New York Broker

Sidney, Spitzer & Co., of New York, who offered a premium of \$11,205 on the \$400,000 Stratford avenue bridge bond issue, were the highest bidders when the bids were opened in the city auditor's office today. They will have the sale of the bonds. Their next closest competitor was Estabrook & Co., of Boston, who offered a premium of \$10,941.04. Other bidders were Merrill, Oldham & Co., of Boston, who have already taken many municipal bond issues of this city; R. L. Fair & Co., Harris, Forbess & Co., E. H. Reilly & Co., Hincks Bros. & Co.

WEATHER FORECAST

Unsettled, showery weather tonight and Sunday.

ROME SENDS ULTIMATUM TO TURKEY

Porte Will Be Asked to Explain At Once On Freedom of Movements of Italians Now In That Country.

Bulgarian Army Gathering On Turkish Frontier—Italian and Austrian Aeroplanes in Battle in Sky.

Paris, Aug. 21.—The Italian ambassador to Constantinople, says a Rome despatch to the Matin, has been instructed to hand to the Porte a note asking for a formal categorical statement as to departure of Italians from the Turkish possessions.

The note is couched in terms admitting no evasion. Without being an ultimatum it calls upon the Turkish government to declare yes or no whether Italians will be permitted to leave and when.

London, Aug. 21.—The correspondent at Rome of the Exchange Telegraph Company says that the Italian note is in the nature of an ultimatum, and that the reply of the Porte is expected today.

French and British Officially Declare Cotton Contraband

Paris, Aug. 21.—The French Foreign office announces that the Journal Officiel tomorrow morning will contain an announcement by the French and British governments declaring cotton absolute contraband of war.

GERMANS TAKE ANOTHER FORTRESS IN POLAND

Berlin, Aug. 21, via London.—The Germans have captured the Russian town of Bielak, 25 miles south of Bialystok, and have driven the Russians over the Biala River, according to an official announcement given out today by the German army headquarters staff.

SCHOOL GIRL DIES AFTER OPERATION UPON HER TONSILS

Blanch R. West, the 13 year old daughter of Mrs. Edmund Perot of East Broadway, Stratford, passed away suddenly yesterday afternoon, after an operation yesterday for enlarged tonsils.

Following the operation a hemorrhage began. The girl was removed from the doctor's office where the operation had taken place to St. Vincent's hospital, but it was impossible to staunch the flow of blood and she died a short time later. Until May, Miss West and her parents lived in this city. She attended Lincoln school and Newfield Sunday school.

After removing to Stratford she attended the Bethany Mission. She was a young girl whose sweet manner made her a great favorite and she had a host of friends both in Bridgeport and Stratford. Her relatives are prostrated by her death. The body has been removed to the home of her grandmother, Mrs. Caroline Delmuth of 228 Stratford avenue where the funeral will be held.

Medical Examiner Garlick said the case had been reported to him and that on investigation he found the child died of shock and loss of blood following the operation. He said he saw no reason for a further investigation.

Lose Belongings When Tashua House Burns

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cotton of Tashua, lost all their belongings in a fire early this week. It was at first reported that a trunk of valuables had been recovered, but this is erroneous and the Cottons are now dependent on the kindness of neighbors.

APPALLING CONDITIONS SURROUND THEM, CLAIM STAR SHIRT STRIKERS

Workers Claim They Are Subjected to Extortionate Fines and That Even Usury Is Practiced By Those In Authority Over Them.

Charges that tyrannical conditions exist at the Star Shirt Co., which were never rivalled by any other factory in this neighborhood, were made this morning at the mass meeting of employees held in Eagles' hall.

The system of "charges" was alleged to be most reprehensible and at the close of the meeting, Bernard Abrams, general organizer of the United Garment Workers' of America, asserted that the system at that factory allowed the proprietors to have a five per cent. advantage on competitors, simply by fining its employees.

Samuel Martin, general organizer of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union, made a severe attack on the board of trade, saying that it is advertising all over the east that labor is cheap here.

Another told how she had been sent home for two weeks for attempting to eat a piece of cake, while at her machine. This system of lay-offs is customary it was testified.

One young man, with a wife and family, testified that he was in desperate circumstances with his wife and child ill, and he asked his employer to lend him \$20. He said it was given with the demand that he pay five per cent. interest every week. He didn't pay and was "fired."

An ironer asserted that he had scoured a shirt bosom that could be replaced for 15 cents and he was fined several dollars.

Girls testified that when a long stitch was put in a sleeve or any other mistake was made the girl had to pay the full price of the shirt and take home the sleeve, unaltered.

Two weeks ago, it was asserted, Thomas Purdy, the superintendent, who has been there four months, cut three cents on the wages due on each "dozen of work."

There came in for much abuse, he was said to have installed an efficiency system that was treading down the girls. Miss Mary Grinston, a forewoman, was censured severely for her alleged custom of sending the girls home or "firing" on slight provocation.

In that factory, the cutters testified, they have been informed, that not the clock, but the factory whistle will tell the time. The second whistle blows, it was said, at three minutes before 7 o'clock, at which everyone must be at the bench or have 15 minutes taken off the time due him. Three times late means discharge.

There are 70 employees of the plant now out demanding the eight hour day with 10 hour wages and a 10 per cent. increase in wages, also a number of minor concessions. Some 450 polishers, buffers, stamper and press hands walked out yesterday after President James G. Ludlum, general manager of the company and president of the Manufacturers' association, explained it would be impossible to grant their demands.

At 6 o'clock this afternoon a mass meeting was held in St. Joseph's hall in Barnum avenue, at which nearly every employee of the factory was present. Meetings had been held yesterday afternoon and last night.

SILVER CO. EMPLOYEES STRIKE WHEN LUDLUM REFUSES THEIR DEMANDS; HIS ANSWER "FINAL"

Every employee of the International Silver Co., locally known as the Holmes & Edwards factory, is now on strike. Those who remained at work when several hundred of their fellow workmen struck yesterday, all walked out today at 11 o'clock. In consequence it was necessary to stop the power and close down the plant.

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At 6 o'clock this afternoon a mass meeting was held in St. Joseph's hall in Barnum avenue, at which nearly every employee of the factory was present. Meetings had been held yesterday afternoon and last night. George Hughes, president at the meeting today and Benjamin Dworkin was secretary. Many of the employees declared that working conditions had

Chairman of American Federation of Labor-Executive Committee Announces That \$106,000 Is Available to Aid in Movement For Eight Hour Day in Bridgeport Factories.

SILVER PLANT AND SIEMON HARD RUBBER FACTORY NOW HAVE STRIKES

Scathing Arraignment of Board of Trade For Advertising Bridgeport As a "Cheap Labor" Town Features Big Meeting of Star Shirt Strikers—Molders Plan to Better Conditions.

A fund of \$106,000 that will be spent, if necessary, to obtain better working conditions for girls in Bridgeport, is at the command of the American Federation of Labor officials in Bridgeport, according to James Roche, chairman of the executive committee of the Federation.

Already, during the year starting in January, \$50,000 has been spent in that effort in various parts of the East. More developments were recorded in the labor situation in Bridgeport today.

The Holmes & Edwards Co. factory, known as the International Silver Co., shut down at 11 o'clock, because 700 of its employees had gone on strike.

The Siemon Hard Rubber Co. was at a standstill after 11 o'clock, when its 200 employees struck for the eight-hour day and no reduction in pay, after these demands had been refused by the company.

The three machinists at the Hartmann Brewing Co. went on strike at 11 o'clock for better wages.

Samuel M. Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, telegraphed to this city that he would be unable to come. He had been asked to assist in the adjustments here.

A scathing attack on the board of trade featured the meeting of the Star Shirt Co. employees when Samuel Martin, general organizer of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, bitterly denounced the board for "bringing manufacturers here, on the promise that labor is cheap."

Committees were appointed that will call on the officials of the Star Shirt Co. Monday to present their grievances. The girls and men have separate committees, but they unite in demanding the abolition of an "efficiency system" of charges, which it is asserted, is tyrannical.

A committee waited upon Waldo C. Bryant of the Bryant Electric Co. this morning to demand a 25-cents a day flat rate increase for the girls in the factory. No decision was reached by the company.

The first gun of the campaign to get better conditions for the many moulders in the city was fired last night when Joseph F. Valentine, a member of the executive committee of the A. F. of L., and an officer in the Metal Trades Union, came to this city, to get acquainted with conditions. Demands on factories employed moulders are likely to follow.

Although a big sign was placed on the building of the Salt's Textile Co., informing the workers that everybody is welcome and the workers are desired back, none returned this morning.

Not only were the machines of the factory at a standstill, but the plumbers and electricians' helpers walked out this morning.

The first Laundry Workers' Union ever organized in Bridgeport was formed last night and Miss Katherine Stein, of the Crawford plant, was elected president.

A conference will be held this evening with George E. Crawford of the Crawford Laundry Co. in the effort to settle his firm's differences.

BRIDGEPORT BRASS CO. ANNOUNCES EIGHT HOUR DAY FOR 2,000 WORKERS

The Bridgeport Brass Co. notified its employees yesterday that the eight-hour day has been decided upon by the company and that it will be instituted Monday.

This will affect more than 2,000 employees, according to Guy P. Miller, treasurer of the concern.

Mr. Miller was asked if he thinks the eight-hour day improves efficiency.

"That remains to be seen," he said. The shops of the company have been running on the 55-hour week basis. No reduction will be made in wages.

"The announcement was purely voluntary," Mr. Miller asserted. "Our employees didn't make any demands. As far as we know they are perfectly satisfied with the idea."

The notice was posted on the bulletin board of the factory yesterday and it attracted much favorable comment from the employees.

With the swinging into line of the Bridgeport Brass Co., 2,000 more employees have been added to the list of those made happy in Bridgeport by better working conditions, in the last few weeks. This is one of the biggest concerns in the city and the firm's voluntary action is greeted by labor leaders as an indication that the bigger manufacturers are observing the trend of the times and are treating with their workmen in a co-operative manner.

No overtime arrangements have been made because little is done. The straight shift is general but the two shift system is used in some of the departments.

A few days ago the company announced the installation of a 50-hour week. Now it has granted the working hours for which the union workers of Bridgeport are striving.

WILLIAMS AGAIN TENNIS CHAMPION

Newport, R. I., Aug. 21.—Tennis history repeated itself today in the victory of R. Norris Williams, 2nd, of Philadelphia, over Maurice E. McLoughlin of San Francisco in the final contest for the Casino cup on the same court on which Williams won from McLoughlin the title of national champion a year ago.